IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 and 10 as follows:

- (Withdrawn) A hybridization reaction method, comprising the steps of:
 dropping a sample solution containing a sample biopolymer on a cover glass; and
 placing a slide glass having a probe biopolymer fixed thereon on the cover glass
 with the fixed probe biopolymer facing down.
- 2. (Withdrawn) A hybridization reaction method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of placing the cover glass on a silicon sheet prior to the step of dropping the sample solution.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A hybridization device, comprising:
 - a tray provided with a hollow for placing a slide glass having [[a]] at least one biopolymer fixed thereon;
 - a sheet for fixedly placing [[the]] a cover glass onto an inner bottom of the tray in the hollow, said cover glass being to be covered with the slide glass from above with a sample biopolymer solution sandwiched therebetween;
 - a case for accommodating the tray therein; and
 - a cap for sealing the tray within the case.
- 4. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 3, wherein the sheet is made of silicone.
- 5. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 3, wherein the longitudinal length of the sheet is generally equal to the length of the hollow.
- 6. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 3, wherein the sheet is made of silicone, and the longitudinal length of the sheet is generally equal to the length of the hollow.
- 7. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 3, wherein the sheet has a guideline

for defining the positioning of the cover glass.

- 8. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 3, wherein the sheet is made of silicone, and the sheet has a guideline for defining the positioning of the cover glass.
- 9. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 3, wherein the longitudinal length of the sheet is generally equal to the length of the hollow, and the sheet has a guideline for defining the positioning of the cover glass.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A hybridization device, comprising:
 - a tray having a convex in a hollow for placing a slide glass having [[a]] at least one biopolymer fixed thereon, the tray having a convex protruding from an inner bottom of the tray into the hollow, said convex being fixedly placed with a cover glass thereon, said cover glass being to be covered with the slide glass from above with a sample biopolymer solution sandwiched therebetween;
 - a case for accommodating the tray <u>therein</u>; and a cap for sealing the tray with<u>in</u> the case.
- 11. (Original) A hybridization device according to claim 10, wherein the convex has a cover glass positioning groove for determining the position for placing the cover glass.